

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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SUBJ: PROPOSED IDB DAIRY LOAN

REF: (A) STATE 17224, (B) STATE 9619,

1. BELOW IS TEXT OF LETTER SENT TO ME BY NORMAN MEYER, CO-DIRECTOR OF SCREW-WORM COMMISSION, CONCERNING THE PROPOSED IDB DAIRY LOAN. LETTER WAS DATED JANUARY 14, AND CONCERNS MR. MEYER'S INVOLVEMENT PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF REF B. I BELIEVE IT SHOULD BE OF INTEREST TO VARIOUS WASHINGTON AGENCIES INVOLVED IN LOAN.

2. BEGIN QUOTE. LAST WEEK DR. PABLO ZIEROLD REYES, SUB-SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE FOR LIVESTOCK, ASKED ME TO MEET WITH HIM AND WITH LIC. LUIS VICENTE ECHEVERRIA ZUNO TO BECOME ACQUAINTED WITH THE PROGRAM FOR MOVING DAIRY CATTEL FROM THE FEDERAL DISTRICT (PRODEL). DURING THE LAST SEVERAL DAYS, I HAVE 1. VISITED THE PRODEL OFFICES WHERE I WAS GIVEN A BRIEFING BY DR. ZIEROLD, LIC. ECHEVERRIA AND OTHERS. 2. TALKED WITH USDA WASHINGTON, D.C., STATE DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D.C., AND EMBASSY MEXICO PERSONNEL INVOLVED IN WORKING RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE IDB LOAN REQUESTED BY PRODEL.

3. VISITED 7 MEXICO D.F. DAIRY HERD LOCATIONS. 1973 STATISTICS SHOWED 4,456 DAIRY HERDS WITH 45,600 DAIRY COWS ARE LOCATED WITHIN THE FEDERAL DISTRICT. THE FOLLOWING TABLE SHOWS HOW THESE HERDS ARE BROKEN DOWN BY HERD SIZE:

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//FOLLOWING READ IN COLUMNS OF FIVE//

##CATTLE PER HERD., AV. NBR PER HERD, NBR. OR HERDS,
TOTAL CATTLE, PERCENT OF TOTAL

1-25, 3.5, 4,130, 14,500, 32,

16-60, 39.2, 166, 6,500, 14,

61 OR MORE, 134.2, 144, 19,600, 43,

AREA OF COAPA, 357.1, 114, 5,000, 11

TOTAL, --, 4,456, 45,600, 100

//INFORMATION FROM "SINTESIS DEL PROGRAMA, EDICION 04, OCUBRE 4,
1974," PUBLISHED BY BANCO NACIONAL DE CREDITO RURAL, S.A.,
FIDEICOMIOS "FONDO DEL PROGRAMA DECENTRALIZACION DE LAS
EXPLOTIACIONES LECHERAS DEL DISTRICO FEDERAL".

THE 4 HERDS I SAW CONTAINED FROM 65 TO 200 MILK COWS. THREE
OF THE HERDS WERE HAND MILKED AND THE FOURTH USED MILKING
MACHINES. ALL ARE SELLING WARM, RAW MILK (UNPASTEURIZED)
TO WALK-IN CUSTOMERS AT ABOUT PS. 3.50 PER LITER. MILK IS HAND
LADLED FROM DAIRY MILK CANS INTO POTS AND PANS BROUGHT IN BY
CUSTOMERS.

OWNERS OF THREE OF THE FOUR DAIRIES VISITED SAID THEY WOULD
NOT BE ABLE TO STAY IN BUSINESS VERY LONG BECAUSE THE PRICE
OF FEED AND LABOR IS TOO HIGH AND THE PRICE OF MILK IS
TOO LOW.

EACH OF THE DAIRIES ARE LOCATED IN BUILT UP POPULATED
AREAS. STORES, APARTMENTS, SOFT DRINK AND BOTTLING WORKS,
INDIVIDUAL DWELLINGS, ETC., ARE IMMEDIATE NEXT DOOR
NEIGHBORS TO THESE DAIRIES. HOWEVER, HIGH FENCES BLOCK
OFF VIEW OF THE CATTLE FROM THE STREE UNLESS THE FRONT
GATE IS OPEN.

I WAS ADVISED THAT ABOUT 40-50 PERCENT OF THE CATTLE INTHE HERDS
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ARE REACTORS TO THE INTRADERMAL TEST FOR TUBERCULOSIS.
IN VIEW OS THE HIGH PERCENTAGE OF TUBERCULOSIS, THE
GENERALLY CRAMPED QUARTERS FOR HANDLED CATTLE, THE UNSANI-
TARY MANNER OF SELLING MILK (INCLUDING THE SALE OF RAW MILK)
AND THE PRESENCE OF THESE DAIRIES IN DENSELY POPULATED AREAS,
I BELIEVE IT HIGHLY DESIRABLE THAT THE DAIRIES BE MOVED OUT
OF THE CITY. IF ALLOWED TO REESTABLISH ELSEWHERE, THESE
DAIRIES SHOULD DO SO WITH DISEASE FREE ANIMALS AND SELL MILK

THROUGH PROCESSING PLANTS EQUIPPED WITH PASTEURIZATION EQUIPMENT. SUCH REQUIREMENTS ARE PART OF THE PRODEL PLAN. THE PRODEL PLAN DOES NOT INCLUDE A METHOD OF, OR FUNDS FOR, RELOCATING THE 4,130 HERDS THAT CONTAIN AN AVERAGE OF 3.5 COWS EACH NOR THE 166 HERDS THAT CONAIN AN AVERAGE OF 39.2 COWS EACH. ONLY THE LARGER HERDS WOULD BE ASSISTED IN RELOCATION. THEREFORE, ONLY A RELATIVELY FEW LARGE HERD OWNERS WILL BENEFIT FROM THE PROGRAM. IN MY JUDGMENT, THE MAJOR BENEFIT FROM THE PROGRAM WILL BE INCURRED BY THE 2-3 MILLION PEOPLE WHO EACH DAY CONSUME RAW MILK FROM THESE TUBERCULOIS INFECTED DAIRY COWS, AND BY THE THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WHOSE ATMOSPHERE IS FOULED BY LIVING IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE DAIRIES IN THEIR PERSENT LOCATIONS. I WAS TOLD BY A PRODEL REPESENTATIVE THAT PLANS CALL FOR MOVING ALL OF THE HERDS BY NOVEMBER, 1976. HE ADMITTED THAT ACCOMPLISHMENT MIGHT SLIP 2-3 MONTHS.

I AM NOT QUALIFIED TO COMMENT ON THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ASPECTS OF THE PRODEL PROGRAM, HOWEVER, THE MAJOR GOAL OF PRODEL IS TO STOP THE SALE OF RAW, CONTAMINATED MILK FROM TUBERCULOSIS INFECTED CATTLE. I THINK THIS GOAL IS HIGHLY DESIRABLE AND SHOULD BE SUPPORTED. END QUOTE.
JOVA

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